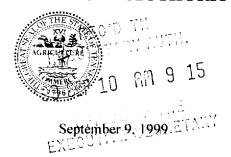
TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Melvin Malone, Chairman Lynn Greer, Director Sara Kyle, Director



460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

James B. Wright
Senior Attorney
United Telephone-Southeast, Inc.
14111 Capital Boulevard
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Re: Application of United Telephone-Southeast, Inc., for Authority to Issue Long-Term Indebtedness Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. Section 65-4-109 - **Docket No.** 99-00622

Dear Mr. Wright:

The Authority staff has reviewed the above-referenced petition, in which United Telephone-Southeast, Inc.,(UTSE) seeks Authority approval to issue long-term debt in the form of a promissory note. Based on Tennessee Attorney General Opinion No. 99-119, the Authority staff finds that, because UTSE is a public utility in Tennessee with multistate operations or certificates of authority, Authority approval of UTSE's proposed debt issuance is not required.

Thank you for informing the Authority of this matter. Please address any other questions to Chris Klein (615) 741-2904 ext. 150.

Sincerely,

K. David Waddell Executive Secretary

c: Docket No. 99-00622 Chris Klein Edward Phillips

Cto close
Sile per CK/letter